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# Richmond Times-Dispatch

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67th YEAR. VOLUME 67 NUMBER 310 RICHMOND, VA., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1917.—TEN PAGES. WEATHER —FAIR PRICE TWO CENTS

## CITY EMPLOYEES MAINTAIN SECRECY AS TO PETITIONS

### Decline to Say Who Gave Them Instructions to Secure Signatures.

### BELIEVED TO BE EFFORT TO DELAY ALL ACTION

### Charter Commission, if Elected, Could Not Have Report Ratified Before 1920.

### MOVEMENT HAS NO SPONSOR

### Paymaster Shepherd, Plumbing Inspector Mitchell, "The" Folkes and Others Among Canvassers.

Efforts believed to be designed to defer the abolition of the Administrative Board or its reduction to three members, Saturday and yesterday, to the circulation of petitions by many city employees for an election on the question of whether there shall be a new charter. A charter commission, if elected, would not present its report for ratification until the general assembly of 1920, thus delaying for two years any changes, and forestalling efforts originating either in the City Council or the Civic Association to secure changes in the charter from the legislative session which opens in January.

City employees circulating the petitions uniformly declined to discuss the origin of the papers to which they invited signatures, and the originators of the movement remained discretely in the background. Chairman John Hirschberg, of the Administrative Board, was reported out of the city. Councilman Morgan R. Mills, whose name street rumor had connected with the petitions, said last night that he had just returned from a hunting trip, and denied all knowledge of the papers. Officers of the Civic Association have positively disclaimed all responsibility for the movement, which is described as an effort of the "mob" to forestall any genuine effort for charter reform on the part of tax-paying citizens.

### EXPOSURE MAY RESULT IN PETITIONS BEING WITHDRAWN

In some circles it was predicted that the exposure given to the effort to secure signatures to a petition for which no one has been willing to stand sponsor, could result in the petitions being withdrawn, and some other line of attack adopted by those who have for months opposed the efforts of the Civic Association to have a scientific survey of the city made, and who have since made vigorous attempts to belittle the Bureau of Municipal Research and the value of its recent report on conditions in Richmond.

Petitions were circulated Saturday by Charles E. Shepherd, City Paymaster for departments under the Administrative Board; Thomas W. Mitchell, assistant plumbing inspector, under the control of the Health Department; Wyndham Wright, stenographer in the office of City Engineer Bolling; Theophilus W. ("The") Folkes, custodian of the Grays' Armory and a well-known Jefferson Ward political worker, and a number of other city employees. The greatest activity in the movement has been displayed by employees in the Health Department, the City Engineer's office and other departments under the supervision of the Administrative Board.

### SAYS HE DOES NOT KNOW SOURCE OF MOVEMENT

Mr. Shepherd said last night that he did not know the source of the movement. He had been requested by a friend to obtain signatures to the paper, which he himself had signed, but beyond this fact he knew nothing of the matter. There were a number of petitions circulated in the City Hall Saturday, he said, and that was the first time he had known of the movement. He declared it seemed to be a general movement, and he understood that similar papers were being presented to voters in all sections of the city.

As he declined absolutely to discuss the matter, no information could be obtained from Mr. Mitchell. He would neither deny nor confirm the report that he had circulated one of the papers. He made the same reply to every query: "I can give you no information," and became slightly indignant during the course of the interview. It is known, however, that Mr. Mitchell did circulate a petition, and that he obtained a number of signatures by his paper.

### SIGNED UNDER IMPRESSION IT WAS FOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Mr. Wright also canvassed a number of voters Saturday. Some signed his petition, while others did not. One voter repented his action when he discovered that the movement was not sponsored by the Civic Association of Richmond. It was in the belief that it was in accordance with the policy of that association that he had signed his signature. Mr. Wright said last night that he did not know the source of the movement.

The paper had been given him by a friend in the City Hall with the request that he obtain the names of as many voters as possible. He was in full accord with the movement, and signed the petition himself, later obtaining a number of signatures. He said that a number of other employees in the City Engineer's office had been given similar petitions, but he declined to say who had "passed around" the forms.

An officer of the Health Department asked several employees of a Broad Street store to sign the petition Saturday.

(Continued on Second Page.)

## Secret Service Finds Hoarded Foodstuffs

### NEW YORK, November 11.—Secret Service agents have discovered foodstuffs and other property valued at more than \$73,000,000 stored in warehouses in this city which has never been reported to the government.

The government requires under the trading-with-the-enemy act, it was learned to-night, that this is only a small part of what is expected to be uncovered before the search ends.

Flour, sugar, eggs, butter and canned goods of various kinds are contained in the list of foodstuffs. Large quantities of iron, steel, copper, cotton and chemicals also have been found, a part of which, it was announced, is owned by Germans.

The value of the foodstuffs not reported to the government was placed at \$38,400,742, and the metals, cotton and other materials at \$35,449,028.

The Secret Service men made a detailed report of the amount of goods unearthed and the location of the places of storage to Herbert Hoover, Federal food administrator. They reported the material held by enemy allies to A. Mitchell Palmer, custodian of alien property, and they informed Bernard Baruch, of the Council of National Defense, of the location of cotton and metal commodities.

## PRESIDENT ADDRESSES AMERICAN LABOR TO-DAY

### Speech Before Convention of Federation of Labor Meant for Workmen Throughout Nation.

### DELEGATES BACK GOMPERS

### No Intention of Disputing Leader's "Premiership" Is Representatives' Answer to Reports That Pacifists Have Planned Demonstration.

By Associated Press. BUFFALO, N. Y., November 11.—Delegates assembled here for the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor awaited to-night with keenest interest to hear the address President Wilson will deliver at the opening session to-morrow.

To most of the delegates announcement of the President's coming was a surprise, although it was learned to-night that the invitation to the President to address the convention had been extended to him by the executive council of the federation in October.

"The President," said Samuel Gompers, president of the federation, to newspaper men, "will deliver a message to labor and through labor to the American people. That's all I can tell you."

There was much discussion of reports that a pacifist and Socialist demonstration was being planned at the convention in opposition to the leadership of Mr. Gompers and his activities as head of the American Alliance for Labor and Democracy, the organization which opposed some time ago at a convention at Minneapolis the pacifist propaganda of the People's Council of Democracy and Peace.

Inquiry among delegates described as liable to lead such opposition if any, met with statements that there was no intention of disputing Mr. Gompers' "premiership."

### KAISER'S AGENTS TO REAP LITTLE FROM THIS WORK

When the attention of Mr. Gompers himself was called to the reports of pacifist opposition he said: "I know nothing about it. If it is so, it means the Kaiser's agents are at work. Let them go ahead. It will do them no good."

That the convention would be asked by the executive council to endorse the stand taken by the American Alliance for Labor and Democracy, was a report discussed in this connection among the delegates.

It was said that it probably would be on this resolution, if submitted, that pacifist and Socialist opposition would appear.

The building trades section of the federation has adopted a resolution regarding that citizens of foreign countries who have not declared their intention to become citizens of the United States or Canada, be barred from union membership. The object of the resolution was said to be to discourage attempts of agitators from foreign countries to become affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

Another question discussed by the delegates to-night, and which it was predicted would be taken up by the convention, was that of having representation of labor upon more of the government departments which now administer the various industries, just as the mine workers are represented on the fuel administration.

## PEACE TALK IN BACKGROUND

### Germany Now Interested Only in Developments in Russia and Italy.

(By Associated Press.) COPENHAGEN, November 11.—The developments in Russia and Italy have put peace talk in the background in Germany. Peace questions are not mentioned by any representatives of the four parties composing the Reichstag majority, whose utterances in regard to the settlement of the chancellorship crisis are cited by Berlin correspondents of Danish newspapers.

A Berlin dispatch to the Cologne Gazette urges more energetic prosecution of the war on land and sea, saying that by this means alone can the Germans force their opponents to seek an agreement with the central powers.

### LOCAL SLEEPING CAR TO DANVILLE

By Richmond Times-Dispatch. It may be occupied at Danville until 7:30 A. M. SOUTHERN RAILWAY SYSTEM.

## TO STANDARDIZE BREAD OF NATION

### President's Proclamation To-Day Will Place Bakeries Under Government License.

### PRICES WILL NOT BE FIXED

### Multitude of Sizes Now Produced Will Be Reduced to Form, With Standard Ingredients.

WASHINGTON, November 11.—Definite steps to standardize bread and lower its price will be taken to-morrow when President Wilson issues a proclamation placing all bakeries under government license, December 10, and subjects them to food administration rules prescribing ingredients and weights of loaves. The loaves will not be fixed, but with the standardization it is expected that natural competition and simplification of distribution will force down prices for pound loaves to 7 or 8 cents. Fancy breads will be eliminated, and the multitude of sizes now produced will be reduced to form of standard ingredients. The weights will be fixed, instead of six pounds of four or five, and a half, two and four pounds. The loaves will have a decrease in the middle, to permit their sale in halves. In baking, only three pounds of sugar will be allowed for a barrel of flour, instead of an average of six pounds now used, and two pounds of vegetable oil shortening must be used. Instead of six pounds of lard or oil, the customer who expects to have 100,000,000 pounds of sugar, and the same amount of lard in this way. Bakers may use only skimmed milk for bread, and rolls will be permitted only if made in standard sizes and of regulation bread dough.

### HOPES TO WORK REFORMS IN METHODS OF DISTRIBUTION

Through the co-operation of the baking industry, and also with the backing of the licensing system, Food Administrator Hoover hopes to work reforms in the present method of distribution from wholesale bakeries to retailers, and from retailers to customers. He will urge grocers, for instance, to buy regular quantities of bread, limiting their purchases to a single bakery, instead of buying from direct to customers who pay lower cash and carry their goods home than to those insisting on delivery and credit. On the "cash and carry" basis, he says bread can be sold at a profit of 1 cent a pound loaf. In addition, an attempt will be made to persuade wholesale bakeries to sell their product direct to customers who will pay cash and carry their purchases.

In licensing the baking industry, which produces about 42 per cent of the country's bread, Mr. Hoover indicated no effort would be made to encourage use of flour containing other cereal products than wheat, since experiments have shown such flour does not keep well. Neither will the administration ask bakers to make their own bread to mix flour, but will seek instead to have them observe one wheatless meal a day a week. Restaurants and hotels, which use about 15 per cent of the total bakery output, will be asked to have one wheatless day a week.

### MILLING STANDARDS FOUND MOST EFFICIENT

Milling standards, now requiring manufacture of about 72 per cent of the wheat grain into flour, have been found most efficient from considerations of health and keeping qualities, and probably will not be changed.

Reports reaching Mr. Hoover indicate that since September 1, from 12 to 14 per cent of the flour supply has been saved by household economy promoted by the food administration. The bakers' voluntary rule accepting returns of stale bread is estimated to have saved 600,000 barrels of flour.

Mr. Hoover announced his program to-day after an intensive study of the baking industry and the flour, sugar and lard situation, with the aid of the Federal Trade Commission.

Finding that 49 per cent of the nation's bread is produced in bakeries, as against 50 per cent in the homes, he determined on the following procedure:

Reduction in the costs of public baking and distribution, in waste of flour and in use of sugar and lard. By setting the maximum limits on uses of principal ingredients and stabilizing the price of flour, Mr. Hoover hopes to eliminate the present variable cost units in breadmaking.

### NO POWER TO FIX PRICES, BUT HOPE FOR REDUCTION

The food administration has no power to fix prices, but Mr. Hoover hopes to work conditions around a point where a pound loaf of bread may be bought generally at 7 cents, or near it. Small bakers and grocers doing little delivery will be able to sell at that price, he believes, but bigger shops cannot sell at 7 cents, unless they cut out deliveries and otherwise reduce expenses radically. Credit dealers must also obtain more than 7 cents, he believes.

Mr. Hoover is confident prices will come down, but he feels that an even greater good will be found in the form of tremendous savings in bread materials. Bakers will not be permitted to accept returned bread, grocers being required to sell all they take from the shops. This will do away with the waste in the form of stale bread, and is expected to save 600,000 barrels of flour annually.

Reduction of the sugar used in bread to a maximum of three pounds per barrel of flour as against an average use of six pounds now, is expected to save 100,000,000 pounds of sugar.

Reduction of the amount of shortening to a maximum of two pounds per barrel of flour, as against an average of six pounds, and the substitution of some vegetable oil, is expected to save 100,000,000 pounds of lard annually.

Because each barrel of flour makes

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## ALIED AID BRINGS NEW HOPE TO ITALY

### Cadorna, Fochs and Wilson Confer on Plans for Co-Operation.

### Apparent German Success on Left Wing of Piave Does not Diminish Enthusiasm.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, November 11.—The faith of Italy has been regenerated by the formation of the interallied military committee with Generals Cadorna, Fochs and Wilson. Official dispatches received here today tell of the optimism in Rome begot by this co-operation throughout the western front.

Detailed military information has not been forwarded here, but the latest news of an apparent success of the Germans on the left wing of the Piave line has not diminished Italy's determination and enthusiasm.

It is pointed out in other quarters here, however, that successes of the enemy at this point may put an entirely new complexion on the campaign. It is now predicted that the Germans are aiming a blow at the communications of Italy with France. Should the point of the German advance be thrust on through the Piedmont, it might prevent the movement of guns and reinforcements and cut the "leg" of Italy off from her allies. It is believed that to this point the allied reinforcements will be raised.

The completion of this move, in all that it comprehends, would break the western front for the Germans. It would cut off Italy and make a separate peace almost imperative. There is no disposition here to minimize this danger, and it is believed in official quarters that steps are being taken to meet it.

### MAY INCLUDE ABANDONMENT OF VENICE TO HUNS

These steps, it is admitted, may include the abandonment of Venice to the Hun and the swinging of the battle line into a northwest and southeast direction, instead of north and south, as at present.

In Italian quarters, however, it is still insisted that the battle will be fought and won on the line now aligned. The effects of the interallied committee's appointment have already become apparent in a general shake-up of the Italian commanders. Younger men have been placed in charge.

There is no disposition to criticize General Cadorna. He is still regarded as the hero who organized Italy's fighting machine and pushed it to its limit. But in the formation of the interallied committee Rome sees not only military but political co-ordination on the side of the allies for the first time since the war began.

Rome itself has been aroused to the peril. Hotels run by German-Swiss have been closed—among them the Palace Hotel, famous among American tourists. The proprietors are charged with participation in the German propaganda.

### OFFICIAL DISPATCHES RECEIVED FROM ROME

Official dispatches from Rome received here to-day say:

"In political and journalistic circles, the formation of the interallied council of war is greeted with warm satisfaction, since it is bound to bring about a more complete and beneficial fusion of action both in political and military fields. Il Giornale d'Italia writes that interallied military command is destined to exercise an extremely important part in the events that are now rapidly developing. To-day it will morale of the formation of the Venetian plains; to-morrow it may be directed to create somewhere else a new strategic situation with initiative of different character, and with objectives agreed upon in conjunction with a higher interallied political council."

"The newspaper adds that the method of the central powers in dealing with their adversaries consists in disposing of each nation separately. It is therefore incumbent on the allies to oppose the enemy with a compact cohesion of direction of enemies and purpose."

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### ONE HOUR AND TEN MINUTES FROM HAMPTON TO CAMP

It took one hour and ten minutes to make the run between Hampton and the camp a distance by airplane of eighty miles. The aviators left the experimental station at Langley Field at 10:25 o'clock this morning, and it was 11:35 when the big plane stopped on the camp grounds. During the trip an altitude of 8,500 feet was maintained. The machine is a Curtis biplane, and was of the reconnaissance type. Major Brown has had several years' experience in being, while Lieutenant Carlin has been in the aviation corps for about two years.

On reaching the camp, Major Brown had difficulty in finding a place sufficiently large to land. He made several turns over the cantonment, and thought he had a suitable field near the division headquarters. When he neared the ground, however, he discovered that it was entirely too rough, and in getting his machine in the air again he narrowly escaped crashing into the headquarters barracks. He got up safely, and found the firebreak about two miles from headquarters where there is a large open field. The

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## BOLSHEVIKI FAST LOSING CONTROL

### Kerensky May Soon Return to Power Following the Bolsheviski Collapse

Apparently the Bolsheviski uprising in Petrograd is nearing its end, and Premier Kerensky may soon again be in power.

Late advices from Petrograd are to the effect that the revolutionists have been defeated in Moscow and at Tarskoe-Selo, and from the latter town, which is fifteen miles from Petrograd, are retreating, a disorderly mob, toward the capital.

In Petrograd street fighting has taken place, with the Cossacks and other loyalists having the better of the Bolsheviski element; while Kerensky, with 200,000 men, is on his way from Gatchina to re-enforce the loyalists. To stay his progress, however, the rails of the Petrograd-Canton railway have been torn up, and large forces of the Bolsheviski are said to have gone out to give battle.

To add to the troubles of the Kerensky government, a state of war has been proclaimed in Finland and the Governor-General dismissed, his place having been taken by a sailor. The Diet has voted to elect a state directorate, which will have supreme power in the province.

On the Baltic front the Italian line in the north has withered under the re-enforcements it has received

from the British and French. Even the German official communication does not mention any further retirement by the Italians, but, on the contrary, admits that east of Aniago, where the Austro-German forces made gains last week, the Italians in strong force attacked the invaders and recaptured lost positions. The Italians took about 100 prisoners.

In the Sugann Valley an enemy advance guard was captured.

Along the middle and southern reaches of the Piave, the Italians are holding their line tenaciously, although they have been forced to give up the Vidor bridgehead, north-east of Treviso, after having fought a delaying battle, in which they had time to blow up the bridge crossing the stream.

The Germans on Sunday made no attempt to recapture the ground taken from them by the British last week in the region of Passendale, containing themselves merely with the bombardment of the newly won line. A heavy rainfall prevented the British from extending their gain. In Palestine the British forces under General Allenby continue to make progress against the Turks, who are being aided by German and Austrian gunners.

## CAMP LEE WELCOMES VISITING FLYING MEN

### Major Brown and Lieutenant Carlin Arrive in Biplane From Langley Field.

### SEVENTY MINUTES FOR TRIP

### Civilians Being Taught Courtesy of "Job"—Backwoods Man Likes "Job"—Pennsylvanians Beat Virginians—Miss Miller Visits Camp.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) CAMP LEE, VA., November 11.—The usual Sunday calm here was broken to-day by the arrival of one of Uncle Sam's biplanes, which came to the cantonment from Langley Field, near Hampton. When the first faint hum of the motor was heard, the biplane neared the camp, thousands of the troops scurried from their barracks to the company streets, and necks were bent until they ached as the men watched the plane hover over the camp until a landing place was found, when it sunk out of sight among the buildings.

Curiosity impelled the men to follow the course of the machine, and when it came to earth, the field was thronged with the spectators. The aviators landed in a firebreak near the Depot Brigade, and the camp at which the negro troops are stationed, and hundreds of the latter mingled in with the crowds that surged about the airplane when it came to a stop. The presence of the machine did not excite the men to the belief that the Germans were trying to pull off any of their warfare. Many of them had never seen an airplane before, and the visit of one here to-day caused them to turn out in large numbers, and get a good look at the style of the plane that the Americans will probably use against the Huns.

Major Roy S. Brown was the pilot of the machine, and he brought along, as a passenger, Lieutenant Norbert Carlin, both of them being members of the aviation section of the signal corps, and officers at Langley Field. Major Brown came to make a personal call on Brigadier-General Lloyd M. Brett, commanding the One Hundred and Sixtieth Brigade, composed of Pennsylvanians. The aviators reached the camp just before dark, and Major Brown was entertained by General Brett, while Lieutenant Carlin was taken in hand by officers of the Depot Brigade. Major Brown and General Brett are old friends, both of them having seen service together.

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## LENINE UPRISING AGAINST KERENSKY NEARS COLLAPSE

### Premier, at Head of 200,000 Troops, Marching on Petrograd.

### GARRISON AT MOSCOW GOES BACK TO HIS SIDE

### Town of Tarskoe Selo Already Reported Captured by Loyal Forces.

### REBELS RETREAT IN DISORDER

### All-Russia Committee for Saving Country Reports Failure of Revolution.

LONDON, November 11.—Kerensky is back in the ring. At the head of some 200,000 loyal troops he is reported marching on Petrograd. In the capital, the support behind the Lenin-Trotsky band is fast crumbling. The Railway Workers' Union, which can tie up all Russia overnight, has deserted the Bolsheviski government, and a strike is threatened. The Moscow garrison has gone back to Kerensky's side. The garrison of Petrograd, Lenin's chief weapon, is wavering. Troops backing Kerensky have taken Tarskoe-Selo, where Nicholas had his great palace that later became his prison.

Details of how Kerensky succeeded in escaping the fate of his fellow-ministers are as yet lacking, but in its rough outline the story could be pieced together to-night from eyewitnesses, reports and rumors:

The night that the Bolsheviski, perched on motor cars bristling with machine guns, tore loose against the provisional government, there came dashing from the direction of the Tauric Palace a great gray automobile ambulance. Its glaring bell commanded gangway everywhere, causing even the rebels to pause in their wild venture, to let the "sheik man" pass. At top speed the ambulance raced through the Nevsky Prospekt and disappeared in the darkness.

### ESCAPES FROM CAPITAL IN AUTO-AMBULANCE

It was manifestly a hurry call, a race for life. Some of the Bolsheviski chiefs, voiced displeasure. It seemed an ill omen. Had those who cast a curious glance behind them been able to penetrate the heavy curtains that covered the glass part of the ambulance door, they would have only seen a great white sheet covering an apparently lifeless form.

Under that sheet lay Alexander F. Kerensky. He was indeed racing for life; not so much his own, as for that of Russia. That was Wednesday night.

Whether the ambulance took him is not known. The fact is that a day or two later he appeared at general headquarters and rallied a strong force of loyal troops behind him.

Whether he had conferences with Korniloff or Kaledine, or with both, is also uncertain. But there is a strong report that he did, and that the three "K's" then and there formed a *caerula* alliance with the vow to save Russia from her foes, at home and at the front.

Meanwhile the Bolsheviski hold on the capital, and the rest of Russia is fast breaking to pieces. "Trotsky" Lenin seems to have been tried and found wanting by his countrymen in a short and convincing test. What will happen to him and to Trotsky, the former New York East Side newspaper reporter, once the workers, soldiers and peasants become convinced that these two men attempted to deliver Russia into the hands of their enemy is a thought that makes those who know the Russians shudder.

### EXPECTED TO INSTITUTE RULE OF IRON HAND

If Kerensky succeeds in recapturing control it is believed he will institute the rule of the iron hand which he so often threatened, but never employed. His experience at the hands of those whom he time and again saved from the wrath of their countrymen is believed to have taught him a bitter lesson.

The first thing that the pro-Kerensky troops did when they took Tarskoe Selo was to seize the chief wireless station. In Petrograd, also, the Bolsheviski monopoly of outgoing news is losing. This was indicated by a dispatch from the capital that Kerensky has gathered an army of fully 200,000 men. Nor would it pass at the message ship have allowed to pass the message received by the Weekly Dispatch, that the Railway Workers' Union has bolted.

Kerensky, according to another dispatch, is now in communication with loyal troops in Petrograd. Street fighting is reported to be going on in the capital.

Another force loyal to the provisional government is said to be marching on Petrograd from Minard. This may spell danger rather than hope, how-

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

## BAITMORE BY BOAT

Most Delightful Trip in America. Left Richmond 4:30 P. M. Arrive Baltimore 7:00 A. M. Fare, \$2 round trip; \$1 one way. 200 A. RIVER LINE luxurious steamers.

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